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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Applicant:

Carlos VONDERWALDE et al

Serial No.: 10/749,105

Filed: December 29, 2003

**For:                    Stent with Cover Connectors**

Examiner: Uyen T. Ho

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

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Group Art Unit: 3731

Attorney  
Docket: **28780**  
(Previously R0495-01202)

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows: